FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 MAY 1985

PLO-Jordan

During King Husayn's 31 May phone call to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to discuss the 29 May talks with the U.S. Administration, 'Arafat expressed his "great appreciation and complete satisfaction" with Husayn's stance, Amman radio reported. The radio cited Husayn as saying that political settlement must be based on the "UN resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242 and 338," but reported 'Arafat as referring only in general to "the UN resolutions."

Israel

Following President Reagan's talks with Jordan's King Husayn, Israel intends to request clarification on the "emerging change" in the U.S. position about an international conference on the Mideast, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin will be asked to raise this during his upcoming talks in Washington. However, the radio also reported that Prime Minister Shim'on Peres does not think there is any change in the U.S. position and that the issue of an international conference is an attempt to bypass direct negotiations.

The Tabah talks in Cairo ended with both sides reporting "no agreement in sight," Jerusalem radio observed. After meeting the visiting Israeli delegation to review the Egyptian-Israeli talks, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid maintained that "some progress had been made," speculating that the Egyptian delegation might complete the talks in Israel, MENA reported.

Iran-Iraq

The Iranian defense industry has developed some "innovation" to counter air raids against Iran, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani declared in comments related by IRNA. Expressing satisfaction with Iran's missile strength, Rafsanjani acknowledged that Iran uses a variety of missiles. As for the continued fighting, the Iranian Armed Forces communique carried by IRNA stated that Iraqi air raids on Hamedan and Esfahan failed to cause casualties or damage, and that Iran shelled 13 Iraqi cities in retaliation for Iraqi attacks. In another report, IRNA claimed Iranian artillery shelling caused an intensive fire at Iraq's Rafidian oil storage facilities. Meanwhile, the Iraqi military communique affirmed that its forces strafed Khark Island setting targets on fire, Voice of the Masses radio announced.

Lebanon

The IDF withdrew from the Marj 'Uyun barracks, and the areas of Bint Jubayl, Ibil al-Saqy, and Kafr Tibnit on 30 May, Voice of Lebanon radio announced, while Jerusalem radio observed that the IDF has only "small units" in the security strip which it continues to thin out with plans to "complete this task within a few days." Remarking on his talks in the Lebanese-Syrian summit, President Amin al-Jumayyil stated that the Syrian Army deployed in Lebanon, together with the Lebanese Army, can restore the peoples's confidence, according to Damascus press reports cited by the Voice of Lebanon radio. As for Israel's latest withdrawal, Al-Jumayyil asserted that an independent state cannot accept a "security strip." Meanwhile, fighting in and around the camps continued with Amal forces seizing the "last stronghold" at Al-Da'uq in the Sabra camp late evening, Beirut radio reported. The Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF) assured the Palestinian camps that measures have been taken to guarantee their "military steadfastness," Voice of Lebanon radio claimed. The radio's sources also affirmed that the PNSF and the National Democratic Front led by Minister Walid Junblatt met in Damascus with Libyan Army Commander Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis and later with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Sudan

During his 4-day visit to Egypt, Sudanese Prime Minister and Minister of Irrigation and Waterpower Samuel Aru Bol met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, the Egyptian foreign minister, and the minister of state for foreign affairs, MENA disclosed 29 May. Topics under discussion included Egyptian-Sudanese relations and exploitation of Nile water. Meanwhile, SUNA related details of a memorandum by the General Federation of Sudanese Trade Unions to the Transitional Military Council which recounted "serious practices" against the organization by the Trade Union Alliance and the attorney general. The federation demanded that the Trade Union Alliance be disbanded and replaced by an independent national trade union movement, and also called for the dismissal of the attorney general for behavior conflicting with his professional duties by arresting federation trade unionists and planning to amend the trade union law. Responding to these demands, the attorney general in a press statement defended the arrests based on the unionists' links to the defunct regime, the agency added. In the south, the clandestine Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) radio recounted two military operations by the SPLA on 29 May in which one army outpost near Bor was captured and enemy soldiers at another were killed and wounded.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 105 *31 May 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Cordovez Confers With Karmal, Leaves for Islamabad ..... C 1
BAKHTAR Cites Pakistani 'Interference Plots' ..... C 1
Mujahidin Operations in Herat, Qandahar Noted *[Voice of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan]* ..... C 1

INDIA

Upcoming Gandhi-Jayewardene Meeting Confirmed ..... E 1
Punjab Governor Made Chandigarh Administrator ..... E 1
Akali Dal Not Present at Punjab Communal Meeting ..... E 1
Akali Figures Withdraw Resignations From Party ..... E 1
Assam Extends Disturbed Areas Act for 6 Months ..... E 1

PAKISTAN

UN Representative Cordovez Returns 30 May ..... F 1
Cordovez Comments on Departure ..... F 1
Junejo Says Relief Goods To Go to Bangladesh ..... F 1
MASHRIQ on Asian Security, Gorbachev's 'Forum' *[26 May]* ..... F 1
Mujahidin Actions in Afghan Provinces Reported ..... F 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

Bangladesh

Ershad Personally Supervising Relief Operation ..... G 1
BSS Cites Reagan Message ..... G 1
Death Toll at 6,000 *[Delhi]* ..... G 1
Briefs: Workers Recruited for Malaysia ..... G 1

SRI LANKA

Indian Special Envoy Bhandari Leaves for Home *[Delhi]* ..... G 1
President Jayewardene To Visit India 1-3 June ..... G 1

IRAN

Supreme Defense Council Reviews War Situation ..... I 1
Leaders Attend, Rafsanjani Comments ..... I 1
More on Rafsanjani Comments ..... I 1
Montazeri Appoints Karrubi Special Lebanese Envoy ..... I 2
Khamane'i Receives Delegation ..... I 3
Karrubi Comments on Mission ..... I 3
Delegation Leaves for Lebanon ..... I 4
Palestinian Camp Residents Cable Khomeyni ..... I 4
Rafiqdust Meets With Libya's Jallud for Talks ..... I 4
Veleyati Envoy Meets Bahrain Foreign Minister ..... I 4
Khamene'i, Gharazi Discuss Upcoming OPEC Meeting ..... I 4
Health Minister Talks With GDR Ambassador ..... I 5
Gorgan, Gonbad Officials Comment on Harvest Plans ..... I 5
Continuing Reportage on Combat, Reactions in War ..... I 5

Cordovez Confers With Karmal, Leaves for Islamabad

LD302041 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council this morning received at Revolutionary Council headquarters the assistant to the UN secretary general, Diego Cordovez. They talked about his mission to find a political solution to the situation around Afghanistan. Foreign Minister Shah Muhammad Dost was also present at the talks.

It was also reported that this afternoon Shah Muhammad Dost met with Diego Cordovez in continuation of the talks held during the past 2 days. The members of the DRA delegation to these talks were also present.

Diego Cordovez left for Islamabad today at about 1600.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Yuresh, Foreign Ministry advisor Sakhi Daneshjo, the representative of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department, and the head of the UNDP in Afghanistan, Samendu Kumar Banerjee, saw Diego Cordovez and his accompanying delegation off at Kabul International Airport.

Diego Cordovez and his entourage took part last night in a soiree given at their honor by Shah Muhammad Dost at the reception hall of the Foreign Ministry. Deputy ministers of the Foreign Ministry and a number of high ranking officials, the head of the UNDP in Kabul, and a number of staff of the UNDA took part in the soiree.

BAKHTAR Cites Pakistani 'Interference Plots'

LD310600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 30, BAKHTAR — The subversive activities, aggressions and armed interference of the dictatorial regime of General Ziaul Haq in the internal affairs of Afghanistan have been intensified of late, writes an article carried by daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQALAB-E SAWR.*

The daily adds that facts are indicative of the reality that the dictatorial regime of Pakistan, while trampling and flagrantly violating the accepted international norms, continues its aggressions against the DRA and is not ready to take steps towards the improvement of the situation in the region. General Ziaul Haq put into effect the interference plots hatched by the incumbents of Washington administration since the very beginning of the victory of the April Revolution (1978). He adjusted the military apparatus of Pakistan for the anti-Afghan activities and ordered the Armed Forces of that country to put into the disposal of the Afghan counter-revolution the munitions delivered by the CIA.

The year 1979 was a testimony of the incessant interferences of Islamabad in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Pakistani authorities put the helicopters of the Armed Forces of that country into the disposal of the Afghan counter-revolution in March 1979, and the military officers of Pakistan led the exported bandits in the armed aggressions inside the territory of the DRA in April 1979. These aggressions are still continuing in their different forms but by far dangerous dimensions. The instrusion of a band of forty Pakistani commandoes in the vicinity of Teri Mangal on July 25, 1984 as well as the raid on the Pakistani forces on the garrison of Barikowt in May 1984 are undeniable testimonies of the military aggressions of the dictatorial regime of Pakistan against Afghanistan.

The approach of the Pakistani authorities towards the Badaber incident which ended in the loss of lives of Afghan and Soviet servicemen is another undeniable testimony of the flagrant interferences of the military regime of Pakistan in the internal affairs of the DRA.

The existence of 120 training camps of the counter-revolution in the territory of Pakistan and the American, Pakistani, Egyptian, Israeli and other mentors engaged in the training of the counter-revolution are crystal clear testimonies to this end. The Afghan counter-revolutionaries are being trained to use anti-air rockets in Haripor, 135 kms north-west of Islamabad. The counter-revolutionaries are directly being trained in the Armed Forces of Pakistan. The military regime has connived the setting up of arms depots on the frontiers between the two countries. The huge explosion in Teri Mangal is a testimony to this fact. However, as far as history has witnessed, these quests of Pakistan are doomed to decisive defeat.

Mujahidin Operations in Herat, Qandahar Noted

GF310422 (Clandestine) Voice of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] According to reports received from the battlefronts of right over wrong, our mujahidin brothers in a surprise coordinated attack hit a Soviet troop concentration along with Karmal mercenaries in the Qareh region northeast of Herat. After a violent clash heavy losses were inflicted on this blasphemous enemy concentration. A large number were killed or wounded.

In their recent clashes with the enemy, our mujahidin brothers have gained noticeable victories over the joint Soviet and Karmal mercenary forces. In an attack on a convoy of the Soviet-occupying force close to Salang Highway, our mujahidin brothers held up the progress of the military convoy, killing five and destroying a tank. A helicopter belonging to the Soviet-occupying force and its mercenaries was shot down on 24 May by our mujahidin. Our mujahidin brothers attacked a military post of the mercenary forces of the government on the Kabul-Ghazni Highway and succeeded in inflicting heavy losses on the post, killing or wounding another five.

In a guerrilla operation, the mujahidin set fire to the Herat Governorate building. Our Muslim combatants attacked a convoy of the Soviet-occupying force and its mercenaries toward the end of April. This convoy was on its way from Herat to Kalat. Our mujahidin destroyed one of its tanks. The same report added that a security post of the government mercenaries located in the Hazrat-e Baba, Qandahar was attacked and occupied by our mujahidin on 19 May. In this operation a quantity of arms and ammunition also fell to the hands of the Islamic combatants.

Upcoming Gandhi-Jayewardene Meeting Confirmed
BK301259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] It was officially confirmed in New Delhi today that the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, will be meeting soon. The meeting will take place in India, but the exact date and the venue have not been announced. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry told newsmen that these details would be announced in due course.

He said the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, returned to New Delhi today after a brief visit to Sri Lanka. During his stay there, he held discussions with President Jayewardene; the prime minister, Mr Premadasa, and other leaders.

Punjab Governor Made Chandigarh Administrator
BK301611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has been appointed administrator of the union territory of Chandigarh in addition to his own duty with immediate effect. The appointment was announced in a communique issued from Rashtrapati Bhawan [president's house] this evening.

Akali Dal Not Present at Punjab Communal Meeting
BK301635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] In Punjab, the state-level committee on communal harmony has called for a widespread movement of people's resistance to defeat the forces of destabilization. In a resolution adopted unanimously at its meeting in Chandigarh today, the committee stressed the need for every citizen to play an active role and raise his voice against the destructive forces.

The committee decided to constitute subcommittees in each district to intensify the campaign for communal harmony. It also decided to hold all party meetings in each district on the 5th or 6th of next month [words indistinct] to maintain peace and harmony.

Talking to newsmen later, the governor, Mr Arjun Singh, regretted the absence of Akali leaders at today's meeting. He appreciated their recent statement that peace will be maintained during the first week of June.

In reply to a question, Mr Arjun Singh said the deployment of security forces in the state is only to prevent any untoward incident since the government cannot take any chance. He said the government has no intention to interfere with or obstruct the program of the Akali Dal since they have assured that it will be peaceful.

Today's meeting was attended by representatives of the Congress-I, the Janata, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party], CPI, CPI-M, and various religious, social, cultural, and education organizations.

Akali Figures Withdraw Resignations From Party
BK301416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The former Punjab chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal, today withdrew his resignation from the leadership of the Akali legislature party. According to agency reports, the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Committee president, Mr G.S. Tohra, also withdrew his resignation from the post in deference to the wishes of the party workers.

Assam Extends Disturbed Areas Act for 6 Months
BK310907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Assam government has extended the provisions of the Assam Disturbed Areas Act 1955 for another 6 months. An official notification issued in Gauhati says that the Armed Forces Special Powers Act will also be enforced in the state for a further period of 6 months.

UN Representative Cordovez Returns 30 May

BK301730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The personal representative of the UN secretary general on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, returned to Islamabad from Kabul this afternoon after having talks on the Afghanistan problem with the Karmal regime. Mr Cordovez (?is expected) to resume talks with the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, tomorrow.

Cordovez Comments on Departure

BK310825 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The fourth round of indirect talks on Afghanistan will be held on the 19th and 20th of next month in Geneva. This was stated by the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Diego Cordovez, while addressing newsmen at Islamabad airport before leaving for Geneva on his way back to New York. He said the dates have been fixed after consultations with the concerned parties.

Cordovez said during his talks in Islamabad and Kabul he was assured that during the next round of talks conditions will be fulfilled for constructive and fruitful negotiations. He said both sides have expressed their determination to continue this process because they feel that a political solution of this issue could be found only through dialogue. Cordovez said the sides are striving for various basic objectives and understanding, and efforts are being made to resolve differences that have emerged. He expressed the hope that these differences will be removed. He thanked President Mohammad Ziaul Haq for continuing support for his mission.

Junejo Says Relief Goods To Go to Bangladesh

BK301358 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, told the National Assembly today that Pakistan is sending relief goods worth 10 million rupees for the cyclone-affected people of Bangladesh. He expressed deep grief and sorrow on behalf of the government and people of Pakistan on the loss of life and property in Bangladesh as a result of the cyclonic storm. Later, the house offered fateha [prayers] for those who lost their lives in the cyclone.

MASHRIQ on Asian Security, Gorbachev's 'Forum'

GF291408 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 26 May 85 p 3

[Editorial: "Security of Asia and the Indian Role"]

[Text] Addressing a reception given in honor of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, new Soviet leader Gorbachev said that India and the Soviet Union should coordinate their powers to lessen the tension in Asia. He stressed his proposal that the Asian countries should set up an Asia forum on the lines of the 1975 Helsinki conference so that, like Europe, an atmosphere of peaceful coexistence could be created in Asia. Mr Gorbachev believed that if such a proposal comes into effect then India could play a key role in it. Prior to this proposal Mr Rajiv Gandhi had conveyed his concern to the Soviet leader that Pakistan was stockpiling more arms than its needs and that Pakistan was close to manufacturing nuclear arms. He stressed the fact that the United States could do a lot to prevent Pakistan from making nuclear arms but it has turned its eyes away from this fact. Mr Gorbachev also said that Indian concern in this respect was justified.

It is a strange thing that on the one hand India and the Soviet Union are thinking of the security of Asia but on the other hand they do not seem to be aware of the real cause of the tension in Asia. Are not Afghanistan and Cambodia located in Asia? Are not the people of these countries fighting against the military intervention of the Soviet Union and Vietnam, rspectively, to restore their self-rule and nonaligned status? Is not the situation in Afghanistan a cause of danger for the whole of western Asia, including Pakistan? Is not the situation in Cambodia a cause for concern for all of Southeast Asia? No answers to these bitter questions seem to come from Mr Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi. Of ocurse, both have expressed their concern as to why Pakistan was buying arms in a limited quantity to safeguard its own security. Moreover, they have reiterated their baseless accusations that Pakistan was close to making atomic weapons and that the United States was closing its eyes to this situation.

Of course we agree that efforts should be made on regional bases for the security of Asia. We do not disagree that a forum like that of Helsinki would be useful for this purpose, but this forum should not be a copy of the Brezhnev forum for the security of Asia which in fact meant to make India a gendarme of Asia with Soviet support and to force the Asian countries to accept Idnain hegemony. Pakistan is ready to accept every condition of peaceful coexistence with India on equal terms, but it would never accept Indian hegemony under any circumstance.

As far as the future of the relations between Pakistan and India is concerned, Pakistan would like the bases of these relations to be laid on mutual trust and is ready to sign a nonaggression pact with India so that the peace thus made is durable and trustworthy. Therefore, if India has any sincere interest in the security of Asia then first it should create an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence. If this is done then India will have no cause for expressing its concern on Pakistan's armament or nuclear programs. Pakistan has long been trying to make this entire region a region of peace and free from nuclear weapons. Why does not India do something in this respect? Pakistan has already proposed that India and Pakistan should limit the arms and number of men in their armed forces and that both should sign an agreement not to make atomic weapons. If India accepts these proposals there is nothing left to worry about. If the new Soviet leadership has any interest in the security of Asia then it should withdraw its forces from Afghanistan and force Vietnam to withdraw its forces from Kampuchea. This will remove the two-pronged tension in Asia.

Mujahidin Actions in Afghan Provinces Reported

BK310624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have inflicted heavy loss of life on Soviet-Karmal troops after a fierce fighting that followed their blockade of a military post in Herat City. The mujahidin also captured a large number of weapons.

According to another report, the mujahidin attacked a convoy of Soviet-Karmal troops in (Darra Salam), killing five of them and destroying 1 tank. Another report says the mujahidin have scored big successes against Soviet-Karmal troops in many clashes at different places throughout the country.

Bangladesh

Ershad Personally Supervising Relief Operation

BK310945 Dhaka BSS in English 0934 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Dhaka, May 31 (BSS) — Bangladesh President Lt. General H.M. Ershad left yesterday for overnight stay at the Urirchar Island to set up a camp to personally supervise relief operations for the cyclone battered people.

The unfortunate islanders, when they came to know that President Ershad has come to stay with them to share their sorrows, became overwhelmed.

He asked them to have moral courage and assured the islanders that he would make to provision to connect Sandwip with the Urichar with road and make a part of Sandwip Island.

The president immediately sent message to capital to send 20 tubewells, 4 water pumps, more medical teams and food staff by today to the island.

BSS Cites Reagan Message

BK300719 Dhaka BSS in English 0632 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Dhaka, May 30 BSS — United States President Ronald Reagan has expressed his "deepest sympathy" for the cyclone victims of Friday night.

In a message to President Lt gen H.M. Ershad, Mr Reagan said: "Please tell your countrymen that we share your sorrow and that our prayers and condolences are with their families who lost their near ones".

Messages of condolence have also been received from President Kenan Evren of Turkey, the Sri Lankan President J. R. Jayewardene, and President Antonio dos Santos Ramalho Eanes of Portugal.

Death Toll at 6,000

BK301305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The Bangladesh Government says that not more than 6,000 people have died in the recent cyclone. A senior aide to President Ershad told newsmen in Dhaka that the government is checking with the local officials and investigating news reports that about 1 lakh people were killed in the storm and tidal wave. He dismissed the figure as only guesswork.

Briefs

Workers Recruited for Malaysia — Dhaka, May 25 BSS — Formal talks between Bangladesh and Malaysia regarding recruitment of agriculture workers from Bangladesh were held yesterday. The visiting Malaysian Labour Minister Datuk Mak Hon Kam led the Malaysian side, while labour and manpower minister, Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud, headed Bangladesh delegation. After the talks, both the ministers said they agreed in principle to recruit Bangladeshi plantation workers for Malaysia. Later, the Malaysian labour minister, Datuk Mak Hon Kam, left here yesterday after a two-day visit to Bangladesh. [Text][*Dhaka BSS in English 0619 GMT 25 May 85 BK*]

SRI LANKA

Indian Special Envoy Bhandari Leaves for Home

BK301043 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, has left Colombo for New Delhi after holding consultations with Sri Lankan leaders. Mr Bhandari was in Colombo as a special envoy of Mr Gandhi.

President Jayewardene To Visit India 1-3 June

BK311049 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] On the invitation of the prime minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, President J.R. Jayewardene will be making an official visit to New Delhi from tomorrow until 3 June. He will be accompanied by Mrs Jayewardene.

Supreme Defense Council Reviews War Situation

GF310420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Last night's Supreme Defense Council meeting reviewed the current situation on the fronts of the imposed war, future war plans, and the measures taken by the Islamic combatants against the air violations by the Iraqi aggressor regime and the defense of the country's airspace.

Leaders Attend, Rafsanjani Comments

LD310137 Tehran IRNA in English 0121 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — Iran's Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Thursday night that the Islamic Republic's defence industry had made some "innovation" to counter enemy air raids upon Iranian town and cities.

"I give the people the glad tidings that they will further witness the effects of these innovation [as received] very soon" said Rafsanjani. In this manner, he said, Iraq will no longer be able to go deep into our territory.

The remarks by Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani who is the spokesman of the Supreme Defence Council and the Imam's representative at the SDC, came after an important meeting of the council late Thursday night attended by President Khamene'i, Prime Minister Musavi, Foreign Minister Velayati, Information Minister Reyshahri, as well as military commanders including acting Defence Minister Co. Rahimi, Joint Staff Chief Co. Sohrabi, IRGC (Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps) Commander Reza'i, his deputy Shamkhani, and Gen. Zahirnejad the Imam's (second) representative at the SDC.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting Rafsanjani stated that the recent Iraqi escalation of military attacks on civilian quarters in Iran took place out of the Baghdad rulers desperation.

He also expressed satisfaction over Iran's missile strength and said, "Fortunately we do not rely on a specific type of missile, but have some restrictions in using them." He said Iran was doing its best not to harm civilians but added if the enemy continued its vicious acts we will be forced to stop these crimes by firing missiles on Baghdad and other Iraqi cities within the range of our fire."

In conclusion of his statement Rafsanjani said that the variety of our missiles will become further revealed in the future.

More on Rafsanjani Comments

GF310630 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 85

[Interview with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council, by unidentified IRNA correspondent in Tehran 30 May — recorded]

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Supreme Defense Council met tonight. Please tell us about the salient issues discussed in this meeting, in what context were they discussed and what decisions were taken?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. All our important issues which are the problems of the war were discussed in this council's session. The problems of defense, how we tackle them, and the recent Iraqi crimes in attacking our cities were among the important issues which took up most of our session. Then a part of the discussion pertained to the technical problems at the fronts and the logistics for the front which were finalized on the basis of the new Majlis bill for this year's budget. In addition, the official steps and necessary planning were given formal approval. We also discussed the POW's and other issues related to the war.

[Correspondent] You mentioned the issue of technical combat activities. In view of the importance of this issue at the fronts, can you tell us what progress has been made in this field?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In this regard, there is a very strong headquarters at the front, at the Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, which has special officials. The government has recently briefed the ministers concerned at a special commission session concerning technical aspects of the fronts and further coordination. We established a link between the headquarters at Khatam ol-Anbiya' and the deputy of the Supreme Defense Council already there so that the deputy can have his base there and so that the deputy may also be our liaison with the special government commission. He should organize all resources that the Islamic Majlis has envisaged for the technical aspects of the fronts and war logistics, which are considerable, so that they may be mobilized immediately and without loss of time in order to make them available to the fronts.

[Correspondent] Regarding the visit of the UN secretary general to the two countries and the efforts of the Islamic Republic, it appeared that Iraqi attacks on cities had stopped but now Iraq has once again resumed them. Could you please tell us what are the objectives being pursued by the Iraqi regime and what have been the efforts of the Islamic Republic on the political scene to date for exposing the aggression of the Iraqi regime?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] As to the reasons for the resumption by Iraqi Ba'thists of attacks on cities, there are many possibilities, analyses, but in my mind the most important motive is that it is basically the desperation of the Iraqis who are living under most unpleasant conditions. Every second there is a chance of a vast offensive by us, and to endure such conditions whether in Iraq or on the fronts by their forces is difficult. This tension of an impending danger is intolerable and even if there is no action on the fronts, it is still a source of dread. Hence they have no resort except to raise a hue and cry or indulge in some kind of adventurism in the hope that it will have some sort of effect in some other sphere. This is the (?crux) of the matter. They have been prepared for all sorts of insane acts.

But the fact is that they have (?done this). We know it will be to their detriment as it was before because their important cities are within range of our artillery. Baghdad is within range of our missiles and they have no safe place in practice.

Concerning the Kuwait incident, they endeavored to propagate in a deceptive manner to influence public opinion in the Arab world. But it was not successful as it could not be pinned on the Islamic Republic. It was an act of subversion against the latest moves by the Islamic Republic toward the rulers of the Gulf states. If our ties with them are cordial, Iraq is afraid. This was an attempt to subvert our latest initiative or perhaps to (?get closer) to them. Perhaps the reason for this audacity was the false reports by the counterrevolution and the foreign media within Iran that attacks on cities are affecting the people's morale and are making them oppose war. This deceived Iraq again and it embarked on this action. In any case whatever the motivation for this, it resumed these crimes. We have greater strength because of our artillery's ability to hit Iraqi cities alone, and with our aircraft and our missiles. We know that this phase will move Iraq one step further back and it will be peaceful again.

[Correspondent] With the resumption of the attacks by the Iraqi regime, the Islamic Republic has also retaliated as you mentioned. Last time the Islamic Republic used missiles for the first time to hit Baghdad. Many ambiguities exist in the international mass media regarding the Islamic Republic's missile industry, and various kinds of speculation has occurred. If possible, could you tell us about this and the strength of our combat forces to reply to Iraqi aggression?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] It is one of our secrets and it can only be said that we are satisfied with our missile capacity. Our missile unit is strong at present and is a solid source of strength. Fortunately we are not dependent on one kind and we have a considerable choice. The only limitation we have in this regard is that the missile should perform only in a manner as not to hit people and children. In any case it may fall where it can harm people whom we do not wish to harm. A missile's target is not precise like the bullet of a gun. We can only aim with a (?ray) which has this danger and this is the most restricting factor for us. But when the trouble exceeds limits, then it does not (?make any difference) to us.

I repeat that this aspect is an important deterrent for us and God willing, in the future there is an innovation which will come to light in future.

[Correspondent] With the alertness of the air defenses of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces and similarly the fast flyers of the Air Force, the intrusions of Iraqi aircraft in the past 2 days, especially in Tehran and other cities of our country, have been unsuccessful. Could you please tell us the condition of the air defense command in order to safeguard our country's airspace?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In general, the dimensions of our condition have been such that our readiness is less in the beginning. But our dedicated and specialized forces perceive danger at a spot, they think about it, and mobilize their innovations. They have done this and they have made some interesting innovations. You will see the effect in a day or two. I hereby give you glad tidings that in the near future the effects of these innovations will be more evident and in practice, this group of Iraqis will be expelled from the depths of our country.

[Correspondent] My last question is: Recently the Islamic Republic announced that a number of disabled Iraqi POW's are to be unilaterally released. What is the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy and what will be the total number of POW's released?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] On the whole, our policy regarding POW's is as you see now. We try to release as many as possible on an exchange basis. Even though the Iraqis will not agree to such an act, this is our policy. Priority will be given to those who are in more discomfort in camps such as old people, disabled, sick, and weak ones. Naturally there are some POW's who are not inclined to go to Iraq. They have the right and we should give them more importance. But our policy on the whole is to release more POW's and bring most of our POW's from Iraq here. We are confident that in this objective Iraq will create obstacles. We request the Red Cross and other relevant organizations to assist us in this regard so that our humane objective may be achieved.

[Correspondent] Regarding the issue of exchange, how will it take place, on a one-to-one basis or in a larger number?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] It is natural that we should want it to be on an equal basis, to the extent that Iraq agrees, and we will consent. Of course, it is possible that afterward because the number of POW's that we have is greater than that of Iraq we will reach a stage where we will release more than Iraq.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

Montazeri Appoints Karrubi Special Lebanese Envoy

LD301719 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Following the recent conspiracies of the United States and Israel to create a Muslim civil war in Lebanon, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri has ordered the appointment of Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and head of the Martyr's Foundation, to lead a delegation of experts on the problems of the region to visit Lebanon. The text of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri's order is as follows:

In His exalted name. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr Karrubi, the honorable representative of the Imam — may God lengthen his lofty shadow on earth — in the Martyr's Foundation.

Following the big conspiracy of the United States and Israel in Lebanon and the creation of a civil war and bloodshed between a group of Lebanese Shi'ites and Palestinian Muslims, I deem it necessary for your excellency, who recently saw the internal situation of Lebanon and felt the need to get involved, to lead a delegation of well-informed and far-sighted individuals, experts on regional issues, and visit that country in coordination with the Foreign Ministry. Please convey my greetings and my sympathy and concern to the militant ulema and clergymen of Lebanon and all the Muslim and committee forces and combative strata.

Please kindly inform the illustrious gentlemen on my behalf that the sedition currently enacted in steadfast and aware Lebanon with the provocation of the United States and the Zionists, is the

beginning of a great danger to Islam and Shi'ism and the Islamic movement and the committed clergy in the world of Islam.

From the earliest times of Islam, whenever the Muslims' unity and awareness posed a danger to the enemies of Islam — particularly the Zionists and colonial powers during this century — and whenever the grounds were suitable for Islam to come to power and reorganize the Muslims politically, the colonialists, using their uninformed or misled agents, have tried to employ various means and excuses to sharpen sectarian and religious sensitivities in order to turn the Islamic Muslim resistance and its unity of word vis-a-vis the enemies of Islam into divisions, discord, civil war, and bloodshed. God knows what blows have been inflicted on Islam, the prestige of the Koran, and the honor of the Muslims in this respect.

Tell the informed ulema and the honorable and combative clergymen of Lebanon that if they fail to cooperate and do their best in these sensitive circumstances to decisively stop this civil war and bloodshed through self-sacrifice, all the hard work and services of the honorable gentlemen and the selfless and combative youth of Lebanon, who have suffered in trying to awaken the Muslim nation of Lebanon and mobilize them in one rank against the front of blasphemy and Zionism, would be wasted. On the other hand, by the continuation of this bloodshed in the holy month of Ramadan and on the eve of the International Jerusalem Day, which was chosen by a decree of the great leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni — may his lofty shadow lengthen — all positive and international aspects of this great day of Islam will be eliminated. It is not far-fetched to think that this was one of the sinister aims of the Zionists in starting this civil war in Lebanon.

Therefore, I, as a seminary student, call upon you, honorable gentlemen, and all Muslim brothers and sisters of that Lebanon, be you Shi'ite or Sunni, Lebanese or Palestinian, to take immediate steps to stop this massacre and bloodshed. The gentlemen themselves and the various relevant Muslim factions should employ any means they deem appropriate and must try to solve the country's internal problems through understanding and negotiations in an atmosphere of fraternity and peace. They should not allow suspicious elements or duped and blind individuals to take charge of affairs in the presence of the well-informed ulema of Islam and all these learned and zealous young men. The honorable gentlemen should organize the movement's affairs so as to unite and mobilize all forces and resources in full coordination against Zionism and the usurping Israel, this base of global blasphemy in the region. I beseech Almighty God to grant victory and honor to Islam and the Muslims. May He bring abjectness and destruction to the front of blasphemy and zionism. May God's peace and salutations be upon his pious servants.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, 30 May 1985

Khamane'i Receives Delegation

LD301641 Tehran IRNA in English 1638 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — An Iranian delegation leaving for Lebanon on a mediation mission met Thursday with President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i who told them to use very element at their disposal to end the 11-day conflict between Palestinians and the Lebanese Amal militias.

The delegation headed by Hoj. Karrubi, director of the Martyrs Foundation, was ordered to Lebanon by Ayatollah Montazeri. A deputy foreign minister and two Majlis members are accompanying Karrubi. President Khamene'i told the group to ask influential personalities in Lebanon to use all their efforts to end the fighting.

He expressed the hope that the delegation will be successful and asked Karrubi to use "any constructive element" to achieve his aim.

Khamene'i condemned the fighting which he said was in the interests of the Zionists, and called for an anti-Zionist unity among all revolutionary forces and the cooperation of Muslim groups.

The president turned to the non-revolutionary policies of some Palestinian leaders and said their case was different from the destiny of the Muslim Palestinians.

Karrubi Comments on Mission

GF310810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 85

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi by unidentified correspondent in Tehran 30 May — recorded]

[Excerpt] I ask you with due thanks to explain the formation of this delegation to carry out this mission, its objectives, and what expectations you have?

[Karrubi] In His exalted name. The delegation that has been assigned and to which I am giving my services includes our elder brother Hojjat ol-Eslam Ebrahimi from the office of His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri; brothers of the Foreign Ministry, and the legal advisers of the Foreign Ministry; and [word indistinct] brothers of the Islamic Majlis; brother Ahmad 'Azizi of the Majlis Foreign Commission and another member of the Islamic Majlis, Brother Musavi.

The objectives are specific and clear. As you stated, with the victory of the Islamic forces over the Zionists, the plot began in Lebanon and the problems of the civil war and the problem of Shi'ites and Sunnis reared its heads. Of course it is a political game against the aware and revolutionary brothers. It is clear that it is not a religious but a political matter to engage forces so that they may be diverted from the issue of Israel.

On this issue, the Islamic Republic authorities and the officials and policymakers are very sensitive and have formulated their stance right from the beginning. In this regard some steps have been taken and some activity has been initiated. His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri is extremely sensitive to this issue and he has expressed his concern on the issue. He has stressed this and taken some measures.

In the beginning, when this started, he sent messages. When the seminarians came to thank him — the combatant Lebanese seminarians — he spoke to them at length which was (?broadcast) by the media. He followed it up in repeated letters and orders. In the letters, the problems of genocide and its dangers have been detailed. All these humane efforts were aimed at unifying forces as part of unity week and he had some plans for the (?combatant) forces. The revolution in Iran attained victory under the guidance of the imam. The Islamic Republic of Iran is led by Shi'ism and has become a unique pivot, a center for Islamic forces. Hence there is a secret movement for the destruction and denigration of the Shi'ite forces. Therefore such a stance was necessary and steps were necessary.

However, [words indistinct] when we reach this republic certain steps will be taken. All revolutionary and concerned forces especially eminent scholars will be contacted and God willing, we will achieve some results. We hope that we can attain those objectives we desire. We want to quell the fire of dissension and war and rally all the forces against the real enemies who are the Zionists and the United States.

Delegation Leaves for Lebanon

GF310426 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Following the guidance and stress on the need for efforts to end the present clashes among the Muslim factions in Lebanon by His Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri, Mr Karrubi, the Imam's deputy and director of the Martyrs' Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, and a high-level delegation left for Lebanon.

Palestinian Camp Residents Cable Khomeyni

GF310824 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Central News Unit of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that the residents of Palestinian camps in Beirut have sent a cable to the leader of the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeyni. They affirmed that the war currently raging against Palestinian camps is part of the attempts to continue U.S. plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran because Muslim Iran is the real bastion for the revolution of the Palestinian people and all the world's oppressed.

In their cable, the residents of the Palestinian camps pledged to the Imam of the nation and leader of the Islamic Revolution and to the oppressed peoples that they will continue their struggle everywhere and at all times in defense of their religion. They will not put down their arms until the entire land of Palestine is liberated.

Rafiqdust Meets With Libya's Jallud for Talks

LD301203 Tehran IRNA in English 1120 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Tripoli, May 30, IRNA — Mohsen Rafiqdust, the Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) who is visiting Libya Wednesday [29 May] met with 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan Command Council and presented him with a message from Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

At this meeting, while referring to the current developments in Lebanon, Mr. Rafiqdust stressed on the need to bring to an end clashes that have been taking place in Beirut as soon as possible. "In our view, these clashes are a plot to divert the anti-Zionist struggle in Lebanon and harm the results of the resistance of the Muslims in south Lebanon who succeeded in ejecting the Zionist regime from there," he said.

In reference to renewed Iraqi attacks against Iranian cities, the IRGC minister said this development only hardens Iran's resolve for destroying Saddam's regime.

In response, Major Jallud stressed on the need for further coordination between Iran and Libya in view of the current situation in Lebanon and also the imposed Iraqi war.

Veleyati Envoy Meets Bahrain Foreign Minister

LD301433 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Shams Ardakani, the Iranian foreign affairs minister's envoy to Bahrain, had a 2-hour meeting with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak al-Khalifah, Bahraini minister of foreign affairs. In this meeting, while submitting the Iranian foreign minister's message to the Bahraini foreign minister, Shams Ardakani had friendly discussions with him regarding bilateral relations, regional issues, and the need for harmony in dealing with foreign conspiracies in the region.

Khamene'i, Gharazi Discuss Upcoming OPEC Meeting

LD301353 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] On the eve of the OPEC Executive Committee meeting in Al-Ta'if, this morning Mr Gharazi, the oil minister, met Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i and submitted a report on the present situation in the oil market. Mr Khamene'i, while offering necessary guidelines, emphasized the need for an active stance toward this committee. At the end of this meeting, referring to the intense pressures on the oil market for the past month, Mr Gharazi said: With complete coordination the oil consumers have refrained from purchasing oil, so much so that all the producers are faced with extensive pressure from the superpowers. He added: According to all the information which has been received, at present OPEC oil production is a few million barrels less than the 16 million barrels decided by OPEC. This pressure on the oil market is an artificial pressure.

At the end, emphasizing that in the same way that oil producers remained steadfast in the face of world pressure, now they will also support the price of the oil on the basis of $28 per barrel with complete steadfastness, the oil minister emphasized the need for the Executive Committee to investigate the controls on the production, sale, and price of oil.

Health Minister Talks With GDR Ambassador

LD301142 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — Health Minister 'Ali Reza Marandi met and conferred with the ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Germany to Iran, Guenther Fritsch, Thursday.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral scientific and technical cooperation as well as the forthcoming visit of the GDR health deputy minister to Iran.

Gorgan, Gonbad Officials Comment on Harvest Plans

LD301122 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Our Gonbad correspondent reports on the implementation of the improved agriculture plan [tarhe beh zera'i] on more than 400,000 hectares of wheat and barley farms in Gorgan and Gonbad, and the facilities provided for the purchase of wheat from the farmers of the region:

The result of continuous efforts by the committed farmers of Gorgan and Gonbad means that the harvesting of wheat and barley in the farms of the region has started. The director general of the Agricultural Department of Gorgan and Gonbad, in an interview, said that with the cooperation of the farmers of the region in the current year, more than 400,000 hectares of the farms of Gorgan and Gonbad have been devoted to wheat and barley, out of which 120,000 hectares come within the improved agriculture plan. He also said that this year, in order to increase the amount of grain produced in the country, the farmers of the region have made full use of the assistance of the agriculture departments in Gorgan and Gonbad, and in addition to receiving agricultural machinery and equipment, chemical fertilizer, improved seeds and pesticides, they have also made the most of the guidance of the agriculture experts of the agriculture department. It is expected that the amount of grains produced in the region during the current year will exceed 550,000 metric tons.

The director general of the Rural Cooperative Department in Gorgan and Gonbad, interviewed on the amount of funds allocated for the purchase of wheat and the purchasing centers, said that 10 billion rials of funds have been allocated for the purchase of excess wheat from the farmers during the current year. The Rural Cooperative Department and all its employees and experts have been mobilized for purchasing wheat from the farmers, and for this reason, 52 fixed and moveable purchasing centers have been set up, out of which 22 purchasing centers are in Gonbad, 18 in Gorgan, and 12 in Kordsu and Bandar-e Torkman. All these centers have started their activities for the purchase of wheat.

The director general of the Grains Department of Gorgan and Gonbad was also interviewed. He said that so far, about 1 million sacks have been put at the disposal of the Rural Cooperative Department to help in the purchasing of wheat from farmers. In view of the needs of the purchasing centers in the near future, more sacks will be put at their disposal. Concerning the readiness of silos and storage depots for storing the purchased wheat, he said that in order to store the purchased wheat, the 103,000 metric ton-capacity silo in Neka, the 16,000 metric ton-capacity silos in Gorgan and Gonbad, and the 100,000 metric ton-capacity storage depots in Gorgan and Gonbad have been fully prepared. Purchased wheat will then be transported from the purchasing centers to the silos and storage depots of the Grains Department.

Continuing Reportage on Combat, Reactions in War

Oil Company in Basra Shelled

LD301318 Tehran IRNA in English 1310 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan PR. May 30, IRNA — Iraq's Rafidian Oil Company in the outskirts of Basra was hit by Iranian artillery fire Wednesday.

Basra and other southern Iraqi cities have been under the retaliatory fire of Iranian artillery in the response to the renewed Iraqi aerial attacks against Iranian cities and civilian targets.

The attack caused an intensive fire in Rafidian Oil Company's storage facilities and other installations, reports reaching here said.

Esfahan, Hamedan Attacked

LD301523 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — A number of Iraqi jets tried Thursday [30 May] afternoon to bomb the capital city of Tehran, but were chased off by Iranian fighters and intense anti-aircraft fire.

Meanwhile, Iraqi jets attacked the cities of Esfahan in Esfahan Province and Hamedan in Hamedan Province and dropped bombs on these two cities. The attacks on these two cities did not cause any damages or casualties.

Military Communique 30 May

LD301549 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 30, IRNA — Iraqi planes bombarded the cities of Hamedan and Esfahan Thursday afternoon [30 May] but failed to cause any casualties or damages, said the military's Joint Staff in its daily communique Thursday.

Iran retaliated by putting 13 Iraqi cities under artillery fire.

The command said Iraqi planes broke sound barriers over the towns of Chalus, Gazan-e Bala, Zanjan, Kashan and Arak before they fled heavy anti-aircraft fire.

Enemy planes violated the air space over Tehran and Qom but again the Iranian gunners forced them to flee.

In retaliation for the attacks, the command said Iran's Muslim combatants bombarded 13 Iraqi cities and towns with artillery causing heavy damages.

The command listed the Iraqi targets as: Basra, Abu al-Khasib, Mandali, Khanaqin, Badrah, Zurbatiya, Naft Khanih, Var Meh Raz, [IRNA spelling] Halabjah, Khurman, Sayyid Sadiq, Shane Dari and the Shu'aybah air base.

On the action in the front lines, the command said Iran's Muslim combatants killed and wounded 30 Iraqi soldiers and crippled enemy's transportation in the western front as artillery duels continued there.

Three Iraqi trucks and five of their bunkers were destroyed in the Iranian shelling.

In the northwestern front three Iraqi observation posts and four of their bunkers were destroyed.

Heaviest confrontations were reported in Sar Dasht and Sumar fronts.

In the vicinity of the southern Arvand River three enemy bunkers and one vehicle were reported destroyed.

Planes 'Bombard' Tehran

LD311211 Tehran IRNA in English 1209 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 31 IRNA — Iraqi planes again violated the airspace of Tehran at 15:00 hours local time (11:30 GMT) today and bombarded some points in the Iranian capital. Reports on possible casualties or damages were not immediately available.

Nejat-e Iran Reports Results of Iraqi Air Raids

GF301830 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 30 May 85

[Text] During the past 24 hours the Iranian cities of Tehran, Karaj, and Tabriz have been subjected to Iraqi air raids and losses have been inflicted on these cities. However, little loss of life has been reported. In Karaj, It is reported that one rocket hit the serum manufacturing plant of Hesarak, but this report is still unconfirmed.

From last evening till this morning, our country was subjected to bombardment by Iraqi fighter planes three times. The Tabriz refinery, the oil terminal at Khark, and 26 residential buildings in Tehran and its suburbs have been gutted or destroyed in this bombardment.

According to Air Force personnel reporting to Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondents, in the face of modern and sophisticated Iraqi aircraft, the Iranian Air Force has been (?taking the brunt) in air combat as they cannot match the flying ability of the enemy with their obsolete and aging planes.

The Radio Nejat-e iran correspondent in Persian Gulf area reports that the Iraqi air raid on the Khark base inflicted considerable damage. One warship which was recently purchased and docked at the jetty and two of the Navy's light planes which were parked on [word indistinct] were destroyed. It is being said that during this attack a number of revolution guards who had gone to Italy for naval marine training and (?had returned) were killed or wounded.

In Tehran the news of casualties and damage sustained over the recent days is so widespread that members of local committees are calling at residential houses in the bombed localities and asking the residents not to talk about the damage over the telephone, or to discuss it with residents in other localities, or to speak to their friends and acquintances within or outside the country; otherwise, they face arrest. In Ariyashahr locality in western Tehran, three revolution guard members of a committee who had called at one such locality were attacked by young men. One of them was disarmed and fled on a motorbike.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Ahvaz reports that workers at the [word indistinct] port of Khark Island have mostly fled their places of work following the recent bombardment and, to save their lives, have moved to Ahvaz and later to Tehran. For this very reason loading work during the week was confined to only (?two) oil tankers at this important oil terminal.